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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT**27 MARCH 2018**

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER**(U) Texas – Texas Cities Hit Hard By Cartel Violence Targeting Mexican Law Enforcement**

(U) Laredo – A total of 13 people are dead in two days across the United States border with Mexico. Law enforcement in Texas are seizing more drugs and rescuing more undocumented immigrants heading north while money is going south. A shootout caught on tape took place 24 March in Reynoso, just across from McAllen, Texas caught an innocent family in the middle of an ambush with state and federal police.

SOURCE: 26 March 2018, [ABC](#)

(U) NATIONAL**(U) District of Columbia – Suspicious Packages Found At Military Installations Around DC**

(U) Washington – The FBI responded to multiple government facilities in the Washington, D.C. area yesterday, after reports of suspicious packages. The FBI said each package was collected for further analysis. NBC News reports that one of those facilities was the National Defense University at DC's Fort McNair, which received a package at 8:30 yesterday morning and evacuated the building. Officials at Fort McNair told the network that the package tested positive for black powder, an ingredient in some explosive devices. An X-ray showed what looked like GPS and a fuse.

SOURCE: 27 March 2018, [NPR](#)

(U) New York – American Citizen Arrested For Attempting to Join ISIS

(U) Brooklyn – An American citizen from California who was radicalized by online propaganda traveled overseas to try and join a branch of the Islamic State of Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS) in Libya, US prosecutors said today. Bernard Augustine was jailed without bail yesterday during an initial court appearance in federal court in Brooklyn. A few days before he left in 2016, Augustine texted an unidentified relative, "If I ever get lucky enough to live in the khilafah, I'll burn my own passport, lol," according to a criminal complaint. He made it as far as Tunisia but was detained by authorities there before he could carry out his plan, the complaint said.

SOURCE: 27 March 2018, [Associated Press](#)

(U) New York – Federal Charges in Mexico-US Fentanyl Smuggling Case

(U) New York City – An alleged drug trafficker was accused yesterday of flooding the New York City area with large quantities of fentanyl from Mexico at a time when overdoses related to the powerful opioid have skyrocketed. Francisco Quiroz-Zamora faced drug-trafficking conspiracy charges following an investigation by the Drug Enforcement Administration and other law enforcement agencies. Last year, seizures of fentanyl in cases brought by the narcotics prosecutor increased from 35 pounds to 491 pounds. At the same time, fatal overdoses tied to fentanyl reached an all-time high of more than 1,400 in New York City in 2017, officials said.

SOURCE: 27 March 2018, [Associated Press](#)

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UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY**(U) INTERNATIONAL****(U) Spain – Cybercrime Mastermind Behind US\$1.2 Billion Bank Hacks is Arrested in Spain**

(U) Madrid – Spanish police have arrested the suspected leader of a gang of cyber criminals who stole up to US\$1.2 billion from banks by altering account balances and instructing automatic teller machines to issue cash at will, Europol said yesterday. The person suspected of being behind malware attacks known as “Carbanak” and “Cobalt” was arrested in Alicante, a port city on the southeast coast of Spain, after cooperation between police forces in the United States, Asia and Europe, Europol said.

The Interior Ministry said “Denis K,” who had directed the criminal organization from Spain since 2013, was arrested with three members of his organization, who originally came from Russia and Ukraine.

SOURCE: 27 March 2018, [Reuters](#)

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